

**FAX TRANSMISSION****DATE:** December 10, 2003**PTO IDENTIFIER:** Application Number 10/656,190  
Patent Number**Inventor:** Nobuhiro Miki et al.**MESSAGE TO:** Information Disclosure Statement**FAX NUMBER:** (703) 872-9306**FROM:** CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP  
Myron Keith Wyche**PHONE:** (202) 331-7111**Attorney Dkt. #:** 21776-00042-US1**PAGES (Including Cover Sheet):** 5**CONTENTS:** IDS (Citation) by Applicant (1 page);  
Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages); and  
Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8 (1 page).

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PTO/SB/97 (12-97)

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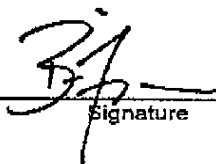
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Docket No.: 21776-00042-US1  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Nobuhiro Miki et al.

Application No.: 10/656,190

Confirmation No.:

Filed: September 8, 2003

Art Unit: N/A

For: SURFACE PURIFICATION APPARATUS  
AND SURFACE PURIFICATION METHOD

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
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Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

The references cited in this Information Disclosure Statement were also cited in the parent patent application Serial No. 09/417,009 filed on October 12, 1999. Therefore, copies of the cited references are not enclosed and can be found in the parent patent application.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this

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Application No.: 10/656,190

Docket No.: 21776-00042-US1

Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21776-00042-US1. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: December 10, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By Myron Keith Wyche  
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PTO/SB/08a/b (06-03)

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/856,190
				Filing Date	September 8, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Nobuhiro Miki
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	21776-00042-US1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number/Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	US-5326406	07-05-1999	Kaneco, et al.	
	AB	US-4736758	04-12-1988	Kusuhara	
	AC	US-5984952	10-12-1999	Kunze-Concewitz	
	AD	US-6146469	11-14-2000	Toshima	
	AE	US-5503708	04-02-1996	Koizumi, et al.	
	AF	US-6152153	11-28-2000	Takase, et al.	
	AG	US-6503464	01-07-2000	Miki, et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	BA	JP-7161672	06-15-1995	Ohmi, et al.		
	BB	JP-4369222	12-12-1992	Oda		
	BC	JP-62126638	06-08-1987	Sugino, et al.		

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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		T <sup>2</sup>

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